

Chino Champion (CA)

Baseball league scouts local charities' founders

Melodie H. Magouirk

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The search for all-stars has led Major League Baseball to Chino Valley. The organization has teamed up with People.com to recognize individuals who go above and beyond for their community. Three finalists representing each Major League Baseball team are featured on a website, and the public is invited to vote for their favorite. Of the individuals representing the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, two are local philanthropists: Ruthe Rosen of Chino Hills, creator and co-founder of The Let It Be Foundation, and Danny Mendoza of Chino, who established Together We Rise. Together We Rise and The Let it Be Foundation are neighbors in the same business complex, located in the 13000 block of Ramona Avenue in Chino.

Mrs. Rosen's foundation helps Chino Valley children and their families battling life threatening illnesses to maintain a sense of normalcy by providing services such as housekeeping, grocery and meal services, family recreation and sibling needs. It was created in 2006 following the death of Mrs. Rosen's daughter, Karla Asch-Rosen due to brain cancer. Together We Rise, founded by Mr. Mendoza two years ago at the age of 19, sponsors sports camps and music programs for low-income and foster children. All volunteers who work through TWR are age 21 or younger.

Participants were nominated through the event website, and finalists were chosen by a panel of judges. "I hope that by participating in the competition it will bring our organization national attention, as well as local attention, to help us get our name out there," Mr.

Mendoza said.

The top vote-getter for each team will attend the 2010 MLB All-Star Game in Anaheim, and one winner will be featured in People magazine. "The hard part for me is that only one of us can win, and I really believe in their cause," Mrs. Rosen said. "Part of our excitement at the nomination is knowing that it came from a family that we cared for, and that means the world. Winning would mean national exposure for us, and if I can inspire one other person in some other town to do what we're doing - isn't that what I'm supposed to do?" Multiple votes can be cast and more than one person voted for. Voting ends June 20 and the game will air at 5 p.m. July 13 on the FOX network. To vote, visit mlb.com/people/allstars amongus/# and click on the logo for the Angels.

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